

Fair Tonight and  
Wednesday; Colder.

# The Washington Times

LAST EDITION

NUMBER 7823.

Yesterday's Circulation 45,298.

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 9, 1912

Sixteen Pages

PRICE ONE CENT.

## SPECTACULAR FIRE IN NEW YORK COSTS SEVEN LIVES; DESTROYS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF PROPERTY

### DEMOCRATS WILL MEET ON JUNE 25 TO NAME LEADER

Committee Hastily Agrees to  
Hold Convention Week  
Later Than G. O. P.

### CITIES NOW FIGHTING TO OBTAIN MEETING

J. Hamilton Lewis Booms Chi-  
cago—Baltimore or St. Louis  
May Capture Gathering.

By JUDSON C. WELLIVER.

The Democratic national convention will meet June 25, exactly one week from the convening of the Republican gathering, which will open in Chicago June 18.

When the Democratic national committee met shortly before noon today, the date was decided without discussion or delay. No other date than June 25 was presented, and the vote was unanimous.

Then began the flood of oratory, turned loose by the spokesmen of the various cities that presented invitations for the gathering. At the opening of the session, all the preliminary indications and lobby gossip indicated that Baltimore would win, with St. Louis second in the race.

#### Fix Date First.

When Chairman Mack called the meeting to order he announced that the date was the first business. That was attended to, and then came the preliminary speeches. An effort to limit each city to fifteen minutes was defeated. Forty minutes was asked, and thirty accepted as a compromise. On alphabetical roll call of States, Colorado was the first to present a city, Denver. Former Gov. Alva Adams introduced Charles W. Franklin, of that city, who made a thoroughly businesslike address. He recalled the distinguished satisfaction with which Denver handled the convention four years ago; its comfortable climate, moderate days and cool nights; described the convention hall, capable of holding 11,000 people and giving all of them a real hearing; its hotels and other facilities, and caused amusement by reading from a Baltimore newspaper's Denver dispatches of 1908 telling how magnificent Denver's climate was adapted to the convention purposes.

When he described the geographical argument in favor of Denver, which he declared, was nearer the geographical center of the country and the transportation center than any other contending city.

Mr. Franklin presented some interesting statistics, which he recalled how great a national political center Baltimore was a generation ago. He reckoned that it had entertained a third of all the national conventions, beginning with the first convention, 1824. It saw the Democratic convention of 1828, 1832, 1844, 1848, 1852, and in 1860, though the Democratic convention was held at Baltimore, it adjourned to Baltimore after fifty-seven ballots and remained there. Again, the convention went to Baltimore in 1872, since which time it has had no such gathering.

#### Republicans Favor Chicago.

Chicago, on the contrary, Mr. Franklin said, has become the Republicans' favored convention city, with their gatherings of 1856, 1860, 1864, 1868, 1872, 1880 and 1892. He pointed the conclusion that Denver is entitled to a return visit from the Democracy and its section of the country to the honor its selection would involve.

Denver offered all reasonable and necessary expenses of the convention, liberally stated and allowed. Four years ago it gave \$100,000.

Next came Chicago's case. Roger Sullivan, Illinois committeeman, presented Fred W. Upham, chairman of the citizens' committee back of the convention guarantee. When Mr. Upham advanced to the platform, Chairman Mack smiled a laugh with:

"Gentlemen of the Democratic committee, I take especial pleasure in presenting to you the Hon. Fred W. Upham, treasurer of the Republican national committee."

Mr. Upham blushed and briefly said (Continued on Fourth Page.)

#### WEATHER REPORT.

FORECAST FOR THE DISTRICT.  
Fair tonight and Wednesday; colder tonight; lowest temperature tonight about 3 degrees.

#### TEMPERATURES.

U. S. BUREAU.	AFFLECK'S.
7 a. m. .... 16	8 a. m. .... 16
9 a. m. .... 17	10 a. m. .... 17
11 a. m. .... 18	12 noon (in sun) 20
12 noon .... 21	12 noon (in sun) 20
2 p. m. .... 22	2 p. m. (in sun) 23
4 p. m. .... 23	4 p. m. (in sun) 25

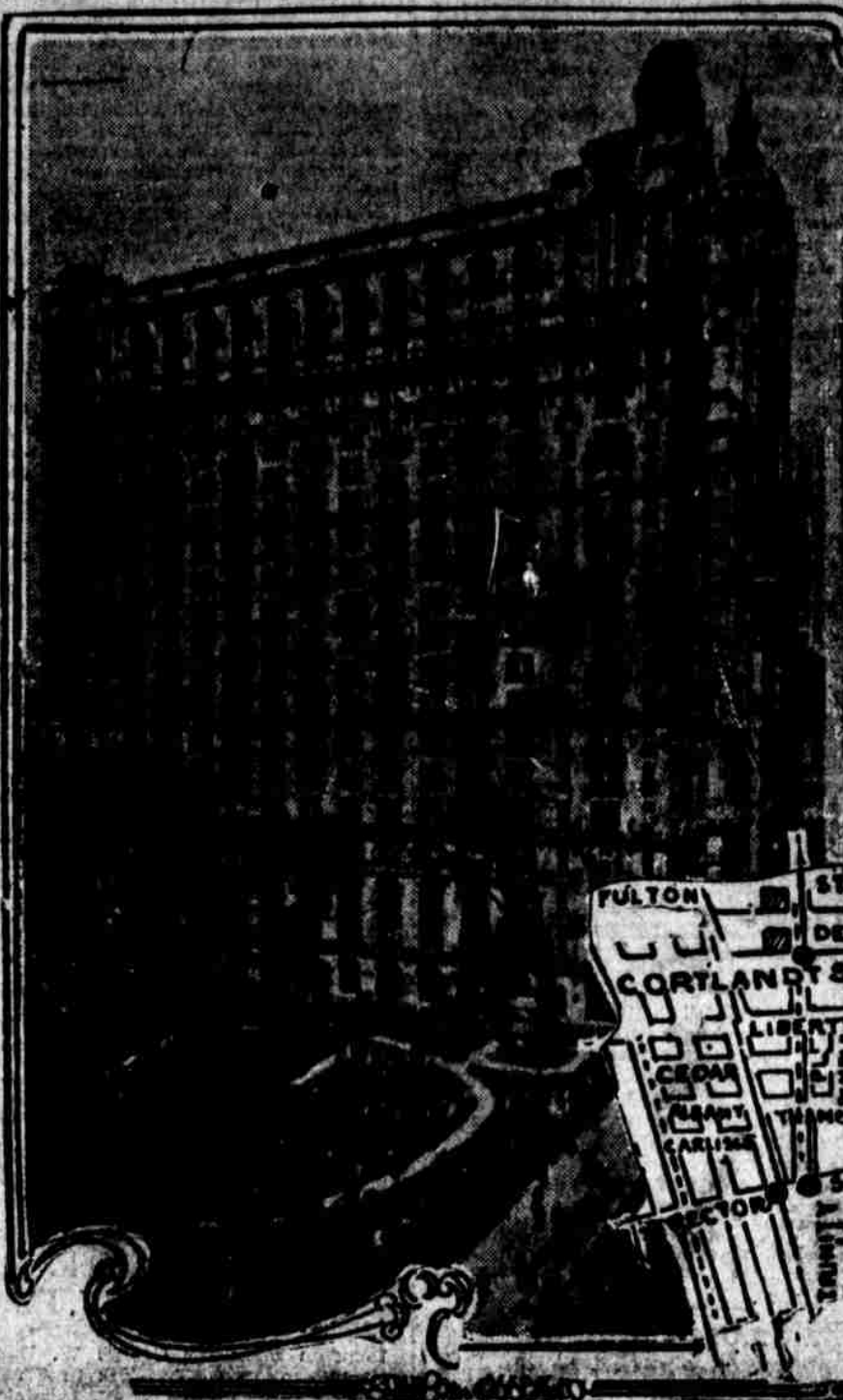
#### TIDE TABLE.

Today—High tide, 12:30 a. m.; low tide, 6:00 a. m. and 6:30 p. m.  
Tomorrow—High tide, 12:25 a. m. and 12:55 p. m.; low tide, 7 a. m. and 7 p. m.

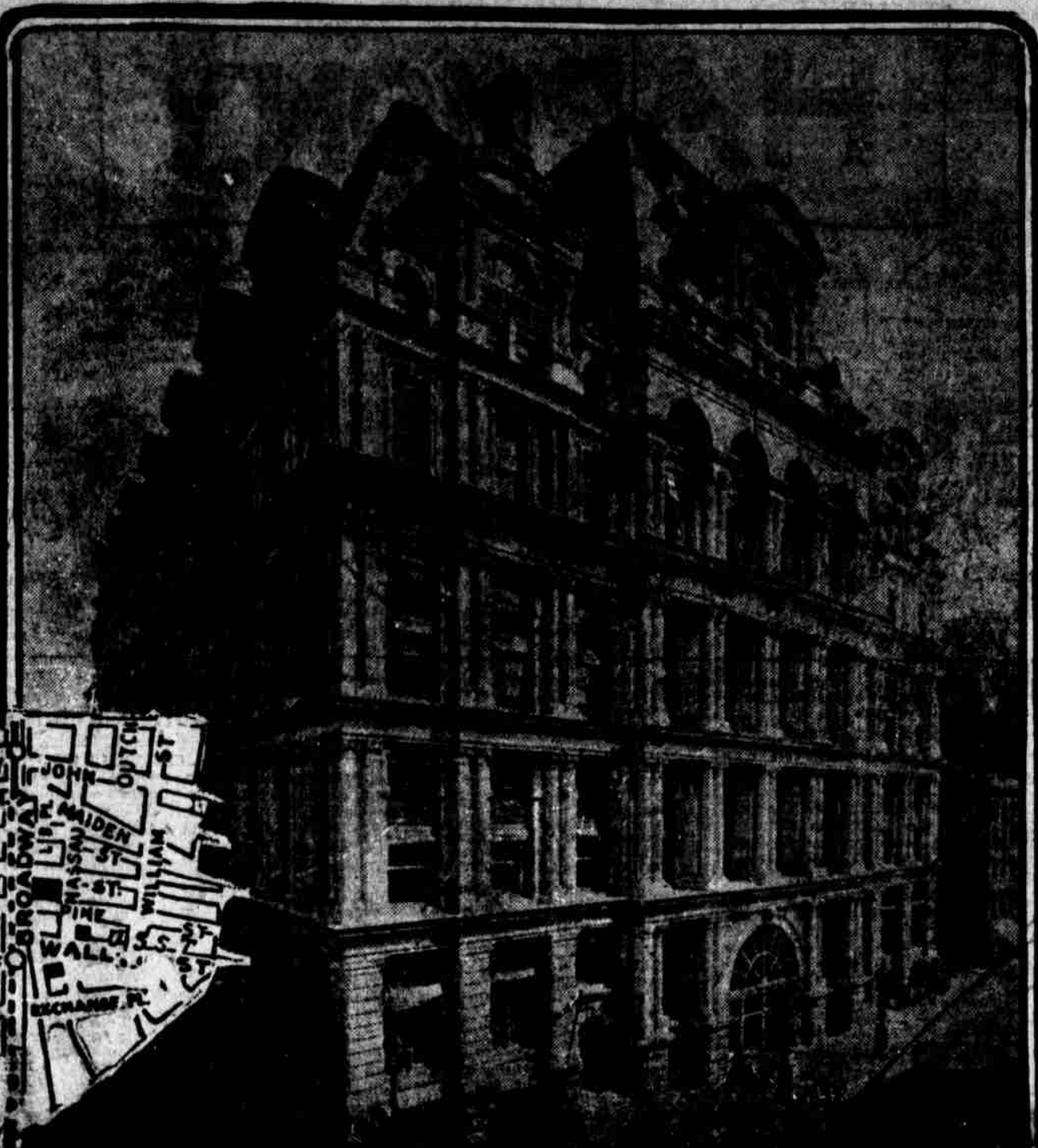
#### SUN TABLE.

Rises ..... 1:20 | Sets ..... 1:52

TRINITY BUILDING.



EQUITABLE BUILDING.



### EQUITABLE LIFE SOCIETY'S HOME OFFICE LEVELLED

Early Morning Blaze Baffles  
Firemen, Some of Whom  
Meet Death.

### FINANCIAL DISTRICT MENACED FOR HOURS

General Alarm Sounded for First  
Time in City's History.  
Thrilling Rescues.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—Seven—possibly ten—men lost their lives today in the most spectacular fire New York ever witnessed—a fire which totally destroyed the home of the Equitable Life Assurance Society at 120 Broadway, paralyzed the greatest financial center of the world, and entailed a property loss variously estimated at from \$15,000,000 to \$30,000,000.

The fire started at 5:20 o'clock and was under control in four hours. During its progress, every single piece of fire apparatus in New York was summoned, the first time in history that such an alarm had been sounded. Buildings valued at hundreds of millions of dollars were menaced.

#### Hard to Figure Loss.

It will be weeks before the property loss can be accurately estimated. Before the insurance investigating committee it was sworn that the Equitable building, now a total loss, cost \$14,751,640 to build, and had a book value of \$15,500,000.

The loss to the tenants of the building will be immense, but until the various vaults can be opened it will not be possible to tell whether any of their valuable contents have been destroyed. Wall Street, cut off by the fire lines, was paralyzed today, the business in the financial center being reduced practically to nothing.

Fire Battalion Chief William K. Walsh is missing and believed to have been killed; four men are reported killed by jumping from upper windows, while the others died in the first floor of the building. How many others died it is impossible to learn at this time.

#### The Reported Dead.

Battalion Fire Chief WILLIAM K. WALSH.  
CONRAD SIEBERT, special policeman.  
GIUSEPPE CONTI, porter.  
JOHN SAVEL, porter.  
JOHN CARROLL, captain of vaults.  
Unidentified porter.  
Unidentified citizen.

The suffering of the firemen, according to Chief Kenyon, was the greatest he had ever seen. Men came from the blazing building literally caked in ice, which formed on their clothing as the mist from the streams poured about them. Dozens were overcome, their faces cut by falling ice.

The building, one of the first "skyscrapers" built in America, was eight stories tall in portions and twelve stories in others. It was erected at a total cost of \$14,000,000, and has been a show place of the financial district for many years.

According to President Day of the Equitable Life, many of the records of that company had been removed recently to the Hazen building, and, therefore, the records of the executive and financial offices of the company remained in the home office building.

#### Flames Spread Rapidly.

The fire was discovered at 5:20 o'clock this morning and spread with such frightful rapidity through the labyrinth of the immense structure that by 5 o'clock the entire building was doomed, and had been practically destroyed.

At 9:30 only the bare walls of the Equitable building stood, and police reserves were driving back firemen and thousands of spectators, for the tons of water that had seeped through cracks in the building were freezing, shaking.

(Continued on Page Eleven.)

#### IN CONGRESS TODAY

SENATE.  
Senate met at 2 o'clock.  
Edward Hines again goes on stand in Lorimer case and tells about a big lumber deal involving "Uncle Ike" Stephenson.  
Interstate Commerce Committee continues trust hearing.  
Senator Du Pont speaks on bill to organize volunteer forces.

#### HOUSE.

Protracted debate marked consideration of the resolution enlarging the investigating powers of the House Committee on Expenditures in the Interior Department.  
Hardwick sugar committee resumed its hearings.

### HINES IN LORIMER INQUIRY EXPLAINS HIS USE OF ROOM

Grilled by Attorney Marble  
and Senator Kern—Tells  
of Lumber Deal.

Edward Hines, Chicago lumberman, who was deeply interested in the effort to get Senator Lorimer elected at Springfield in 1909, reappeared on the stand in the Lorimer investigation when the special committee of the Senate met at 11 o'clock today.

It was expected, Senator Lorimer would go on the stand shortly after the committee began its meeting, he having been prevented from doing so yesterday because the committee took no evidence in the absence of several members. So much time was taken up with Hines this morning, however, and with another witness, H. A. J. Upham, leading Wisconsin lumber merchant, connected with the L. Stephenson Company and other prominent companies in Wisconsin, that there was further delay in reaching Mr. Lorimer.

Hines was grilled by Attorney Marble, for the committee, and by Senator Kern about his having occupied a room at the Union League Club, Chicago, between 3 and 4 o'clock the afternoon of May 27, the day following the Lorimer election. When the conference with Clarence S. Funk occurred it is alleged Hines discussed the Lorimer election and the matter of meeting the cost of it.

Hines insisted he had engaged the room between 3 and 4 o'clock for the purpose of talking over a million-dollar lumber deal with Upham. He said the following week, Tuesday or Wednesday, he and Upham came to Washington and closed the deal with Senator Stephenson's lumber company.

This is the first time Hines has told why he engaged this particular room. Earlier in the day, as he told the committee in the previous investigation, he had a room at the club for another conference, the one which has been exploited in connection with the alleged conversation between Hines and Funk.

Though aided with questions, Hines insisted the room was for the sole purpose of discussing the lumber contract.

### BEET SUGAR CAUSE OF DROP IN PRICES, AVERS DR. WILEY

Pure Food Expert Testifies  
Before Hardwick Investigating Committee.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, a pure food expert, testified before the Hardwick sugar investigating committee of the House today, that had it not been for the beet sugar industry in the United States the high price of 7 1/2 cents per pound for sugar, expected last summer, might still be a charge against the consumer. Dr. Wiley refused to be led into a criticism of the protective theory, although he said he was a protectionist to a certain extent.

The pure food expert outlined to the interested committee the polariscope tests for sugar, and expressed little use for the ancient No. 16 Dutch standard.

Chairman Hardwick, after Dr. Wiley had talked of fostering American industries, such as the beet sugar industry, attempted to get Dr. Wiley to commit himself on the protective tariff.

"I have been lambasted so much that I am getting thin-skinned, and I will have to pass that question," smilingly said the Government's chief chemist.

Dr. Wiley advised the American people to eat more yellow sugar, which he said could be manufactured and sold cheaply. Some maple sugar, however, observed the doctor, is unfit for food. Dr. Wiley was impartial in talking of the relative nutritive properties of beet and cane sugar made in this country.

### Big Fire in Boston; Four Alarms Sounded

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 9.—A four-alarm fire is raging in the building occupied by the Globe Wernicke Company, dealers in desks and filing devices, at 95 Federal street. A high southeast wind is blowing. Firemen say the loss will be about \$200,000.

### Five Children Perish.

MOTLEY, Minn., Jan. 9.—Five children of Irving Carlisle were burned to death when the Carlisle home here was burned. The children were from two to fourteen years old. A sixth child was saved. Carlisle was severely burned trying to save his children. Mrs. Carlisle is crazed over the death of her children, and her condition is critical.

### Loses Libel Suit.

Former United States District Attorney Pettigall, of Porto Rico, has lost in the Supreme Court his \$50,000 libel suit against La Correspondencia, a newspaper. He was removed from office in 1908.

MAP OF NEW YORK FINANCIAL DISTRICT.

### RICHESON MUST DIE UNLESS GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL AIDS HIM

Preacher Pleads Guilty to  
Murder and Court Passes  
Sentence.

BOSTON, Jan. 9.—The shadow of the electric chair now hangs over C. V. T. Richeson, the preacher and murderer of pretty little Avis Linnell, the girlish sweetheart, who was betrayed under promise of marriage. His only hope of escape from ignominious death lies in the hands of the nine men composing the governor's council, the court of last resort for the condemned of this State.

While they are expected eventually to save Richeson, who betrayed the calling to which he had sworn to devote his life, there will be for some time to come an element of uncertainty which will be hard for the condemned man to bear.

Richeson acknowledged his guilt in open court this afternoon. Standing with an effort near his counsel, he listened unmoved to the reading of the indictment and when District Attorney Pelletier demanded, at its conclusion, if he desired to withdraw his former plea of not guilty to wilful and premeditated murder, and substitute therefor one of guilty, he nodded his head and his attorney, answering for him, said:

"We plead guilty to murder in the first degree."

A nod from the black-robed figure on the bench and the clerk for the second time in the history of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts entered on the records of the court a plea of guilty to murder in the first degree.

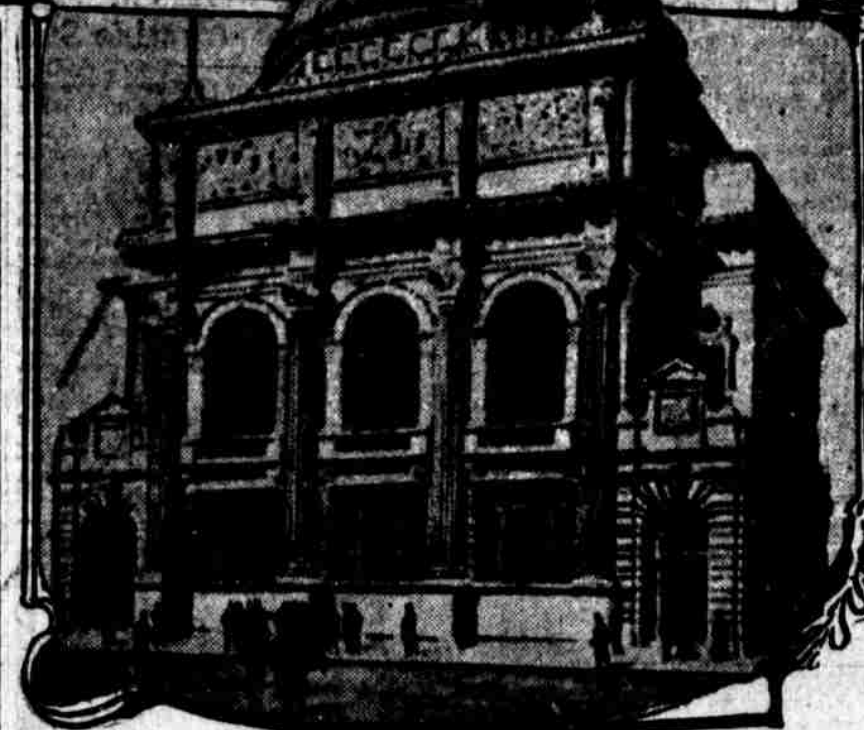
Richeson's pedigree was quickly taken and then Judge Sanderson imposed sentence, in the language of the code, directing that the murderer be taken to the State prison at Charlestown and confined there until the week beginning Sunday, May 19, "when the warden will put you to death in the manner prescribed by law."

The proceedings were devoid of sensationalism. Judge Sanderson had instituted that only a few persons be permitted to enter the courtroom and the acting sheriff with an augmented guard of deputies cleared the corridors of the court house long before the time set for Richeson to appear.

### Ready to Hear Fate.

The minister-murderer had been in readiness for hours to hear his fate, and when Deputy Sheriff Daniel Cronin reached the jail, armed with a capias, directing him to produce Richeson in court, he found the murderer in readiness with the exception of putting on his hat and outside coat.

Richeson was hustled into a waiting prison van and driven to the gallows. (Continued on Third Page.)



NEW YORK CLEARING HOUSE.

### BUCKETSHOP MEN MUST STAND TRIAL

Government Wins an Initial Victory Before United States Supreme Court.

Louis Cella, and the other alleged bucket-shop operators arrested in a Government raid, must stand trial here, according to a decision handed down today by the Supreme Court.

The high court refused to grant a writ of certiorari to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals for review. The lower court sustained the validity of the bucket-shop indictments.

The Cella brothers, with brokers of several cities, were caught in a wholesale Federal campaign against "bucket-shoppers." The court's ruling today is an initial victory for the Government in its crusade.

### Oppose Home Rule.

BELFAST, Ireland, Jan. 9.—At a secret meeting of unionists drill masters were appointed to prepare troops for forcibly resisting home rule for Ireland. Appeals were sent to 4,000 Orange lodges urging members to be in readiness for armed conflict, in case their services are needed.

### Steamer Ashore.

PROVINCETOWN, Mass., Jan. 9.—With a southeast gale blowing and a high tide whipped into enormous waves, an unknown steamer is ashore off Truro. Efforts up to this time to ascertain the identity of the vessel and to render assistance have been unavailing.

### AMERICAN TROOPS ORDERED TO CHINA

Five Hundred Probably Will Sail From Manila Tonight—Foreigners Want Outlet.

Orders today were issued to one battalion of the Fifteenth Infantry, now at Manila, to proceed at the earliest possible moment to Tientsin, China, and assist the troops of the other foreign governments there in keeping open the railway between Peking and the coast.

These 500 men probably will sail from Manila tonight on the transport Thomas. The War Department is arranging the details of the movement of troops, and expects to have them ready within twelve or eighteen hours.

The decision to send American soldiers into China came today, when the State Department received a dispatch from Minister Calhoun, at Peking, showing the necessity for stepping in under the terms of the Boxer protocol, and polling this stretch of railroad.

While Mr. Calhoun reports the situation along the railway between Chinwangtao and Peking as much improved, the outbreak at Lanchow has caused foreign residents to appeal to their governments to interfere to the extent of keeping a way open for foreigners to leave Peking.

Reports have been received from unofficial sources of the destruction of bridges at Chinwangtao, and of the landing of revolutionists at that point. The Fifteenth Infantry is composed of three battalions. The entire regiment has been recruited up to full war strength, and assembled at Manila for this duty. The men have been sleeping on their arms for days.